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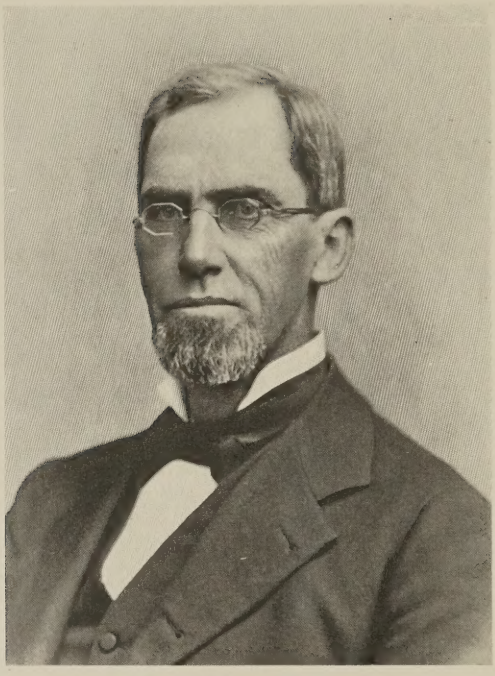

Very truly and sincerely
Your friend
S. R. Lowrie

A MEMORIAL OF

J. ROBERTS LOWRIE

PRIVATELY PRINTED
1896

JONATHAN ROBERTS LOWRIE was born at Butler, Pa., on March 16, 1823. He was the fourth son of Hon. Walter Lowrie and Amelia (McPherrin) Lowrie. The first eight years of his life were spent in Butler, whence, after the death of his mother, on the fifth of March, 1832, the family removed to Washington, D. C., his father being Secretary of the Senate. In 1836, his father having accepted the position of Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, the family removed to New York City. Preparatory to a college course he attended, with his brother Reuben, the University of New York.

In 1838 he entered the freshman class at Lafayette College. Remaining there, however, but one year, he completed his course at Jefferson College, being graduated in 1842 with the highest honors of his class. At Jefferson College Mr. Lowrie was a member of the Franklin Literary Society and a charter member of Beta-Theta-Pi fraternity.

Immediately after graduation he began the study of law at Pittsburg in the office of his cousin, Hon. Walter H. Lowrie. He was admitted to the Blair County Bar July 27, 1846, being one of its original members, and entered upon the practice of his profession in Hollidaysburg, Pa.

On February 15, 1848, Mr. Lowrie married Miss Mary A. Lyon, daughter of Mr. John Lyon, of Pennsylvania Furnace. In the spring of 1854, failing health compelling him to relinquish active legal practice, he removed from Hollidaysburg to Warriorsmark, Pa., having accepted the position of legal adviser to the firm of Lyon, Shorb & Co. Mrs. Mary Lowrie died March 7, 1863, leaving a daughter and two sons, all of whom were born at Warriorsmark.

On December 27, 1866, Mr. Lowrie married Miss Matilda Hamill Nassau, daughter of Rev. Charles W. Nassau, D. D., of Lawrenceville, N. J. Of this union five children were born.

Upon the dissolution of the firm of Lyon, Shorb & Co., in 1873, Mr. Lowrie was appointed trustee in charge of all its affairs. This position he held until his death.

After an illness of two years Mr. Lowrie died at his residence in Warriorsmark on December 10, 1885, in the sixty-third year of his life. He was buried at Warriorsmark.

IT is evident, from the foregoing brief narrative, that Mr. Lowrie's life was a rather uneventful one, passed, for the most part, in the quiet village of Warriorsmark, somewhat aside, apparently, from the bustle and stir of the world. It was, nevertheless, a very active life, of noble endeavor and no mean achievement.

Though yet young, he was rapidly rising in his profession when compelled by reason of ill health to abandon it. He had made no mistake in choosing the law for his life-work: the qualities of his mind especially adapted him for it; his training and preparation had been faithful and enthusiastic; and his almost immediate success gave promise of future distinction. Those who remember him as a lawyer speak highly of his ability. One especial gift, useful in any walk of life, invaluable in the law, was his in unusual degree: he had a native power of persuasion which compelled others to look from his point of view, to see things as he saw them. This must not be confounded with plausibility — the art of making

the worse appear the better reason; on the contrary, it arises from logical powers, belief in self, earnestness, and sincerity.

He was, then, a well-equipped lawyer, young, but already successful and of great promise, when suddenly warned that he must forsake his profession, relinquish the ambition of his life, drop out of the race so well begun. This in the life of any one can be regarded as no less than a calamity; only those who have had similar experience can appreciate its nature. That it did not entirely discourage him, that he attained success and esteem in other fields of labor, though not the distinction he might have reached in the law, speaks well for the stability of his character, his patience, and determination.

The firm of Lyon, Shorb & Co., with which he became connected soon after his retirement from the practice of law, was the largest iron manufacturing firm in the United States. Its possessions embraced valuable properties in Pittsburg and St. Louis, and about twenty thousand acres of land and ore rights in central Pennsylvania. His work at first lay chiefly in perfecting the surveys of its lands and establishing more firmly the titles thereto — an out-of-door life which gradually wooed back health and strength. The scope of his duties grew broader and broader;

he became indispensable to the firm, and finally, when disaster threatened it in 1873, its mainstay.

The president of this company, known throughout the State as a most careful and sagacious business man, made at a critical time a fatal mistake. It was the mistake which generous natures are prone to make — that of too great confidence in supposed friends. The affairs of the firm became deeply involved; only by the most skilful management was insolvency avoided. Dissolution, however, was necessary; and Mr. Lowrie was appointed trustee of the assets of the firm, with the task of rescuing the property from embarrassment. An enormous indebtedness, pressing creditors, somewhat discordant parties in interest — these were the difficulties of the situation. The responsibility was made heavier from the fact that the interests involved were those of his personal friends and relatives.

He entered upon his new duties with a full understanding of the difficulties in the way, but with the determination of bringing about a successful issue, if such were possible. It may be briefly said that after years of wise, patient, energetic management, years of mingled hope and discouragement, promise, and disappointment, and from which anxiety was never absent, success was attained. The entire indebtedness was

paid, and the property, free from all incumbrance, yielded for some years prior to his death a handsome yearly profit.

It was undoubtedly a great achievement. Those familiar with the facts in the case, especially those whose interests were involved, had thought it impossible.

Mr. Lowrie's chief characteristics as a business man were energy, patience, promptness, and unusual foresight. Cool and self-reliant, he nevertheless sought counsel of others in important matters. His plans, never hasty, were carefully, deliberately formed. Once determined upon, however, he was untiring and relentless in prosecuting them to fulfilment in the quickest possible manner.

Thus is briefly indicated the story of his life as lawyer and business man. But to know him only as such was scarcely to know him at all. Law and business are matters too practical to portray the gentler, more attractive phases of character; it was necessary to know him in his home-life to fully understand and appreciate him.

He was a man of many resources, and thereby was enabled entirely to resist the somewhat stultifying influences of continuous country life. Dwellers in the city have many sources of inspi-

ration; country people must often fall back upon themselves. This was far more emphatically so during the greater part of his life than it is to-day.

He drew his inspiration from religion, from nature, from books. Nature was a part of his religion, for under Nature's "habitual sway" he lived; to him she spoke a "various language"; in her manifold beauties he saw divine beneficence. He was especially devoted to the beautiful things in plant-life, not alone from the botanist's standpoint of study and classification, but as lovely creations, worthy of admiration and bearing each a lesson. With another lover of Nature he could say —

> To me, the meanest flower that blows can give
> Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears.

In books his taste was practical. His library was rich in religious works, in histories, biographies, cyclopedias, scientific treatises, and particularly in books of travel. Everything that told of unknown lands had an especial fascination for him. It was rather weak in metaphysics (save as bearing directly upon religion), fiction, and poetry. It would be expected of one so fond of Nature that he would be a lover of her

best interpreter, poetry. But poetry is a thing that a man either bows down to and worships or altogether escapes and ignores.

These, then, were his resources: Religion, home, nature, books, friends. He needed them all, for his life during many years was, as has been indicated, one of great anxiety — anxiety not for his own, but for the interests of others intrusted to his care. Business worries were his daily, often his nightly, companions; he overcame them by resolutely keeping up interest in other things. His faithful hobby, botany, never deserted him. Often, the day's work over, he resorted to his herbarium, and in rearranging and adding to his superb collection of specimens, found relief from worry and forgetfulness of care which "not poppy nor mandragora" in any other form could have given.

In appearance Mr. Lowrie was tall and rather slender; his manner was quiet and dignified. His countenance, perhaps severe in repose, brightened attractively in conversation. To some who knew him but slightly he may have seemed reserved and distant; on the contrary, he was cordial and gracious, and made friends instantly with all who could appreciate him. Grave and serious he was, but there was a native charm about him which could not be resisted; it arose,

perhaps, from his genuine solicitude for the happiness of others. He insisted upon cheerfulness as a Christian duty and attractive grace; he delighted to see others enjoy themselves. Good humor and gaiety were not distasteful to him, but he was profoundly impressed with the sober reality of life, and seriousness and earnestness were the prevailing traits of his character.

He was scarcely more than in the prime of life when the disease which was to be fatal laid its hand upon him. It was a two years' struggle for life — a long battle and a very brave one. There was so much to live for, so much to accomplish, he could not believe his life-work ended; yet not a murmur of rebellion escaped his lips. He laid down his burden with a submission and grace that charmed while it distracted those who were near him during the last months of his life. Pain and suffering but sweetened his disposition and added to its gentleness; disappointment and distress only brought into clearer relief the nobleness of his character. Thoughtful of every one but himself, he died as he had lived.

WRITTEN BY HON. J. M. SULLIVAN, AT THE TIME OF MR. LOWRIE'S DEATH, FOR THE "BUTLER CITIZEN."

IT is due to the memory of Mr. Lowrie, a worthy son of Butler County, that something more than a formal announcement of his decease should appear at his birthplace, as a testimonial of our appreciation of his high character and useful and exemplary life. This is especially appropriate as we remember that the deceased was the son of one of the pioneer settlers of Butler County, whose distinguished character and ability elevated him, whilst a citizen of this county, from the position of a poor boy on his father's farm in the midst of a wilderness, through various grades of responsible public trusts to a seat in the Senate of the United States. Cherishing his memory, the members of his family have always been regarded by our people with friendly interest.

A Memorial

Jonathan Roberts Lowrie was born in the town of Butler, Pa., in the month of March, 1823. His father, Hon. Walter Lowrie, was at that time one of the Senators from Pennsylvania in the Senate of the United States. When Mr. Lowrie entered the Senate in 1818, he found there as his colleague from this State Hon. Jonathan Roberts, from eastern Pennsylvania, for whom Mr. Lowrie's son was afterward named.

Butler was the home of this young son during most of his early boyhood, and through life he cherished the warmest regard for his birthplace. He spent most of his college vacations in Butler with relatives, and often made visits to his native place in later life. The scenes of his boyhood here seemed to be ineffaceably engraven upon his memory, and he always retained a warm friendship for the companions of his youth remaining among us. Butler was peculiarly dear to him as the burial-place of his sainted mother and youngest brother, and of his maternal grandfather, Rev. John McPherrin, and other relatives. During his last years he was most anxiously solicitous that the resting-place of the remains of these relatives should be carefully cared for, generously contributing from his means to reclaim the old Butler burial-ground from the desolation into which it had fallen.

After the death of Mr. Lowrie's mother, the family home was transferred to Washington City, and he was prepared for college in the schools of that city. He first entered Lafayette College, but soon afterwards his father transferred him to Jefferson College, where his three elder brothers, John C., Mathew S., and Walter M., had previously graduated. J. R. Lowrie was a favorite at college, and ranked high in his class as a scholar. He graduated in 1842, and was chosen to deliver the valedictory of his class. Immediately after leaving college he entered upon the study of the law, under the direction of his cousin, Judge Walter H. Lowrie, then of Pittsburg, afterwards Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Soon after his admission to the bar he removed to Hollidaysburg, the county seat of Blair County, then just organized as a county, with a view to making that the place of his permanent residence in the practice of his profession. He entered upon the duties of his profession with bright prospects and high hopes. Well equipped for the service, gifted with a keen, discriminating mind, and trained by thorough education for effective work, few had superior advantages for a successful start in life. But his physical constitution, always delicate, proved insufficient for the labors imposed upon it in the

wear and tear of professional life connected with the confinement of an office, and he was admonished to abandon the practice of his chosen profession and seek more health-giving outdoor employment. He reluctantly yielded to the apparently inexorable demand, and all his plans for his life-work were thus changed. A new field seemed already to have opened for Mr. Lowrie to suit the requirements of his delicate constitution, and at the same time engage his legal ability and practical business talents. This was the superintendence among the mountains of one of the largest landed estates in central Pennsylvania, including farms, furnaces, mines, and wild lands. To be in the midst of his work, he selected a beautiful historic spot, known as Warriorsmark, in Huntingdon County, as his permanent home. Here through life, nestled among the mountains, in full view from his mansion of the towering Bald Eagle Ridge and the picturesque Canoe Mountain, he devoted his hours of leisure to the exercise of a cultivated taste, in improving and adorning a domestic retreat, which all who have shared its warm-hearted hospitality have pronounced a model. Here he devoted himself with untiring energy to his business in his new field of labor, and soon established a wide-spread reputation as a first-class business man.

The financial crisis of 1873 bore so heavily upon the business interests of Pennsylvania that, with others, perhaps the wealthiest, certainly one of the most substantial and respected business firms of the State, was obliged to yield to the pressure and close up its business. The operations of this firm were not confined to Pennsylvania, but extended outside to most of the principal centers of trade in the country, and the settlement of its affairs involved the collection and disbursement of many millions of dollars. By unanimous choice of all parties interested, Mr. Lowrie was selected as the sole trustee to settle the vast estate. This, too, in addition to the duties of superintendent, already referred to, still remaining in his charge. He entered upon the herculean task assigned him with all the energy and determination of his nature, and for seven long years unremittingly devoted himself to the work, with the satisfaction, at the close of this period, of surrendering his trust with every dollar of indebtedness of the estate paid, with interest, and of restoring to the deserving owners a very large property entirely unincumbered. This was a triumph of honest, faithful, and intelligent business management, which has scarcely a parallel. Mr. Lowrie was now anxious to enjoy rest in his

delightful mountain home, surrounded by his dearly cherished family. But as the strain of those seven long years of overwork was removed, he discovered that an insidious and fatal disease had marked him as its victim. Its inroads upon his system baffled all the efforts of the best medical skill in this country and abroad at the celebrated Carlsbad springs, which promised relief. He returned home but to linger and die in the home of his love, surrounded and tenderly cared for by all those who were bound to him by the dearest earthly ties.

Thus closed a life of modest, unobtrusive worth; a life well spent, full of earnest labor, unostentatiously performed, and rich in its glorious rewards.

During Mr. Lowrie's residence in Hollidaysburg he was married to Miss Mary Lyon, daughter of Mr. John Lyon, one of the best known and most highly respected business men of the State. Three children of this marriage, two sons and a daughter, still survive. Their estimable mother died during their childhood, and for several years their care was added to the duties of Mr. Lowrie. Subsequently, Mr. Lowrie was again married, to Miss Matilda Nassau, daughter of Rev. Dr. Nassau, of Lawrenceville, N. J. Five

children of this marriage, four sons and a daughter, still survive, to share with their devoted mother the sorrows of this great bereavement.

The fidelity of Mr. Lowrie's friendships will be attested by all who were honored with his confidence. He was an undemonstrative man; he did nothing for show. He would rather be right than be popular. He shrank from public observation, except where duty called. Among the most prominent traits of his character were manly independence, unflinching firmness, calm, cool self-reliance in business matters, always regulated by the strictest integrity. His large business experience brought him in contact with every phase of character. He was a close observer, and was rarely deceived in the men with whom he dealt. He was an earnest, inflexible, upright business man. But underlying these strong qualities, and only fully discovered by those who knew him best, were the gentlest and tenderest affections. No husband or father had a more loving heart. His sympathies went out to those in suffering and want, and he never turned from an appeal of sorrow. With his own hand he ministered to every case of distress within his reach, and there is many a poor mountaineer to-day mourning in Mr. Lowrie's death the loss of his last earthly friend. Mr.

Lowrie was liberal in his charities, but was always best satisfied when none knew of them but the receivers. Home was his earthly paradise. In its sunlight he gathered strength and inspiration for the weighty business duties of the world.

Tender as woman, manliness and weakness
In him were so allied
That they who judged him by his strength or weakness
Saw but a single side.

Mr. Lowrie, naturally gifted with talents of a high order, was a scholar and a gentleman of refined and highly cultivated tastes. His ample library was an attractive resort to him among the other pleasures of his home. There he enjoyed the companionship of the best authors. He was fond of music, and was always glad to join his own voice in the strains of the family circle. He was much interested in geological research, and many fine geological specimens enriched his cabinet. He was almost an enthusiast in the study of botany. His own botanical collection was one of the largest in the State, and was frequently referred to by distinguished botanists for aid in their researches. He seemed to know familiarly by name every tree, shrub, plant, and flower he ever saw, assigning it at once to its proper botanical class. Whilst in Ger-

many during his last illness, seeking health, he eagerly visited the great German forests and was overjoyed to find, after careful inspection, that he had a greater number of varieties of trees planted under his direction in the grounds surrounding his own family mansion in Pennsylvania than could be found in any of these celebrated foreign forests.

Mr. Lowrie took a deep interest in the affairs of the nation. He was a close observer of current events, and was thoroughly patriotic in all his convictions. He was fearless in declaring his opinions on all questions affecting national or State policy, and always ready to give a reason for his political faith. But he had an innate aversion to the methods of modern politics, and his manly nature shrank from contact or association with the selfish political tricksters and schemers who have so offensively obtruded themselves into the management of public affairs. He never held or desired to hold any political position himself, and discouraged his friends from seeking promotion through any of the corrupt channels in these days leading to political preferment. His learning and ability, his manly courage, his broad, well-balanced mind, his calm, cool, intelligent judgment under other auspices might have been invoked to render the State valuable service.

The crowning glory of Mr. Lowrie's character was his devoted, humble piety. He was a Christian. His daily walk and conversation, at home and abroad, illustrated in a very eminent degree the reality of his religion. His denominational faith was that of his father's—Presbyterian. For many years he had been a Ruling Elder of the Presbyterian Church at Birmingham, Huntingdon County, and through his instrumentality a Mission Church was established at Warriorsmark, near his residence. The amount or extent of Mr. Lowrie's Christian work will never be fully known here. It reached from the humblest cabin among the mountains to the most refined and intelligent business circle of the city. He, like his Divine Master, "went about doing good." His religion was never obtrusive, it was never austere; but always, everywhere, it was felt with his presence. He never suffered any business cares, however important, to interfere with his religious duties. Morning and evening in his own home he led the devotions of his family at the family altar. As a Sabbath School Superintendent and Sabbath School teacher, he obtained the key to the hearts of the young, and he lost no opportunity to lead, if possible, all within his reach to the Saviour. No pressure of business could induce him to violate the sanctity

of the Sabbath. In the various ecclesiastical courts of his Church he was regarded as one of the safest and most prudent counsellors, and throughout the whole community in which he lived and was known he was recognized as a power for good. It is to be observed that this eminent Christian life was connected with daily business duties of great magnitude, and that, instead of interfering with, it helped their discharge. That "fervency of spirit" which distinguished the life of Mr. Lowrie seemed to have been the great motive-power for his "diligence in business."

Every Christian consolation can be appropriated by sorrowing friends in the review of a life so well spent, so triumphantly ended.

Butler, Dec. 14, 1885.

FROM THE "BOTANICAL GAZETTE," VOL. XI, MARCH, 1886.

J. R. LOWRIE. On December 10, 1885, the death of J. Roberts Lowrie, Esq., in the 63d year of his age, occurred at his residence in Huntingdon County, Pa. A son of the Hon. Walter Lowrie, at one time U. S. Senator from the State, he was born in the town of Butler. From Jefferson College he received his first academic degree, with honor, in 1842, and devoted himself to the study of law with his uncle, Judge Lowrie, of Pittsburg, afterward Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. As a field for the practice of his profession he chose Hollidaysburg, in Blair County, but a year or two later removed to Warriorsmark, a village at the base of Bald Eagle Ridge, near the Alleghanies, where he spent the remainder of his life. Having married Mary, the daughter of Mr. John Lyon, the senior mem-

ber of a firm which owned one of the largest estates in central Pennsylvania, including farms, furnaces, forges, ore-banks, and many thousand acres of mountain lands covered with forests, he became its legal adviser and the general manager of the domain.

Thus situated, he had ample means and opportunity for the study of the natural sciences, to which he was strongly inclined. Of these, botany was his favorite, as a visitor would soon discover from the full and choice array of botanical works on the shelves of his library and the herbarium which occupied a place in the same room. His love of trees and shrubs amounted to a passion, and he was well acquainted not only with all the wild arborescent vegetation in his neighborhood, but, soon after coming to Warriorsmark, converted the extensive grounds attached to his mansion into an arboretum, where now may be seen, after the lapse of more than thirty years, splendid specimens of many beautiful and remarkable species, native and exotic. In the creation of this park he was guided by thorough scientific knowledge and excellent taste. May it long flourish as a monument to his memory.

But his attention was not confined to the cultivation of trees and shrubs. To him the entire flora for many miles around his home was an

object of special interest. He made large collections of the rarer plants, and by his efforts one species new to science was brought to light (*Prunus Alleghaniensis*, Porter), and a number new to the State, of which may be named *Ilex mollis*, Gray; *Lathyrus ochroleucus*, Hook; *Symphoricarpos racemosus*, Mx., var. *pauciflorus*, Robbins; *Phlox ovata*, L.; *Pinus pungens*, Mx. (since found elsewhere); *Listera convallarioides*, Hook. The circumstances under which the last was obtained will furnish a good illustration of his energy and zeal as an explorer. On a botanical trip to the Bear Meadows, an elevated mountain-bog in Center County, he made his way very slowly, and with great toil for a considerable distance, through a dense wall of rhododendrons to an open space where he gathered the plant, its only known station south of northern New York, and then, with his treasure in hand, by the aid of a compass, struggled back through the jungle to the point where he had entered — a difficult and dangerous feat which occupied several hours.

In person Mr. Lowrie was tall and rather slender. His eye was keen and his movements quick. In temperament he was grave, but cheerful, and to his intimate friends a most agreeable companion, decided in his opinions, but tolerant, a man of

sterling integrity and great influence, courteous in his manners, hospitable, and, above all, an earnest Christian. *Requiescat in pace.*

THOMAS C. PORTER.

FROM THE BULLETIN OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB, VOL. XXI, NO. 3, MARCH 24, 1894.

ASTER LOWRIEANUS (*A. leiophyllus*, Porter). The good and fit name for this species, published in the BULLETIN (20: 254), being antedated by *A. leiophyllus*, Franch. & Sav. (Enum. Fl. Jap.), is here replaced by another, given in honor of the late J. Roberts Lowrie, who contributed largely to our knowledge of the plants of central Pennsylvania. The varieties noted in the article of the BULLETIN just cited must follow this change and become respectively *A. Lowrieanus lanceolatus*, Porter, and *A. Lowrieanus incisus* (Britton).

THOMAS C. PORTER.

WRITTEN, BY REQUEST, BY THE REV. ROBERT HAMILL, D.D.

IT was my privilege to first form the acquaintance of Mr. J. R. Lowrie in the year 1837, when, as fellow-students in college, we were alike seeking our educational training for future posts of duty. After separating from our alma mater we failed to meet again for years. In the interim each had completed his preparation for, and had entered upon, the sphere of usefulness and duty which he had chosen for his life-work. Subsequently we were, in the providence of God, thrown into close relations socially and religiously, and amid circumstances in which we were able to form a fuller estimate of, to contract a closer intimacy with, and to have awakened a deeper interest in, one another.

Out of that intimacy developed many precious results, the memories of which will give to each of us delight while eternity endures.

J. Roberts Lowrie

In one of those seasons of special religious interest with which the Church of Birmingham was so remarkably blest, and in which the writer was permitted to labor—among those who were subjects of a work of saving grace was Mr. Lowrie. Although he had been trained under religious influences and could claim the royalty of a Christian ancestry, he did not identify himself with the people of God until some years after entering upon his married life. His development of a personal interest in religious things was gradual, and his views were intelligently formed. His investigation of the truths of the Gospel was searching and practical, he being unwilling to receive any statement until his judgment was clear as to its correctness. He was theoretically a Christian before he became such by grace. Having obtained a clear comprehension of the doctrines of grace as taught in the Presbyterian Church—received after careful inquiry as to the truth—he cordially accepted of Christ and his mediatorial work as his only ground of hope, and came into the peaceful and joyous possession of "a good hope through faith." His subsequent life of consistent godliness bore testimony to the genuineness of the work of grace wrought upon his heart. He soon came into the full communion of the Church of Birmingham in which he

was for years an active and consistent member. The joy and peace of one born into the kingdom it was his privilege fully to share. He at once recognized himself as no longer his own, but "bought with a price." He felt that he belonged to Christ. In conformity with the recognition of this fact, his religious life became one of ceaseless activity, a living development of the beauty, the power, and the reality of godliness. At an early date he was chosen and ordained a Ruling Elder, which office he filled with fidelity and great acceptance. As an Elder he was a model. The interests of Zion were ever near his heart. He had a tongue ever ready to speak intelligently, earnestly, and impressively for Christ, and his consistent Christian life gave force to all his utterances. By his earnest prayers, his prudent counsel, his tender sympathy, and his unimpeachable sincerity, he was an efficient helper to his pastor; ever willing to coöperate in everything that would promote the welfare of the Church and the glory of the Divine Master, whether in the particular organization with which he was more immediately identified, or in the higher courts of the Church in which he was at times called to serve. His interest in his own particular church and community was especially marked. There was not in the bounds of the congregation

a family that he did not visit, converse, and pray with, not an individual that he did not speak to on the vital question of seeking a saving interest in Christ, nor did he limit his labors and influence to those of his own communion; but wherever, in the community in which he dwelt, there was one who he felt should be approached, he watched his opportunity to drop a word of counsel for his welfare.

He was preëminently a man of prayer. Prayer with him was not a mere form—a perfunctory discharge of a recognized duty—but the improvement and enjoyment of a precious privilege. He loved to make Christ his confidant—to carry all his interests to the notice of Jesus, and to seek in all things His guidance and counsel. He had his regular hours for devotion, and no outside pressure from any direction ever prevented him from fidelity to this duty. He loved to cultivate, through the mercy seat, intimacy with his loving and beloved Redeemer. He took everything to Christ. He never formed a plan, nor executed a purpose, without first consulting the Lord. His prayers in the family and in the social meeting betrayed in their utterance and impressive fervency an intimacy with, a nearness to, and a confiding trust in, Christ that told of his implicit faith. I never arose from his family

altar, where it was occasionally my privilege to bow, without feeling, after following him in prayer, that Christ was very near.

He delighted ever to respond faithfully and first to the claims of Christ. While scrupulously conscientious in meeting all his obligations in the faithful discharge of every trust, he held his religious obligations as paramount to all others. The discharge of religious duty, however self-sacrificing it might be, was to him a privilege and it was ever kept in the foreground. While actively, faithfully, and successfully engaged in secular duty in his important position of business responsibility, he never permitted his business relations to interfere with his higher obligations to Christ. Everywhere, at all times and under all circumstances, he subordinated his secular interests to his higher spiritual interests without slighting either. He often made his business intercourse with others the occasion on which to further their spiritual welfare. He seemed to be ever on the alert, watching, always judiciously, for opportunities to speak a word intelligently and earnestly for Christ, and his kind and courteous manner gave force to every word he spake.

Mr. Lowrie's crowning grace was his unpretending modesty. This gave emphasis to all his other excellences. While possessed of a degree

of intelligence which rendered him competent to be an instructor, he preferred to take the position of a learner. While he had pronounced views intelligently formed, he was ready to defer to others rather than to thrust his own into the front. With attainments and qualities of mind and heart which fitted him to be a leader, he was disposed to shrink from, rather than to court prominence; ever depreciative of, rather than disposed to, magnify himself. Developing such characteristics, it is not strange that he should have been universally held in high esteem. He was justly honored and beloved by all:

> None knew him but to love him,
> None named him but to praise.

Those who were associated with him in all the different walks of life—the community in which he dwelt, the Church in which he was a faithful office-bearer, as well as those in closer relations with him, all loved him. While they cherish sacredly his memory, they have never ceased to feel and mourn his loss. May they have grace to emulate his bright example.

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